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HARVARD LAW REVIEW.

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THE LAW SCHOOL. — The registration in the School on November 15 for the last twelve years is shown in the following table:—

	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.
Res. Grad.	—	—	—	—	—	1
Third year	69	66	82	96	93	130
Second year	119	122	135	138	179	157
First year	135	140	172	224	169	216
Specials	71	23	13	9	31	41
Total	394	351	402	467	472	545

	1898-99.	1899-1900.	1900-01.	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.
Res. Grad.	1	—	1	1	—	4
Third year	102	134	144	149	167	180
Second year	169	193	202	190	196	201
First year	218	232	241	229	228	293
Specials	58	51	58	59	49	60
Total	548	610	646	628	640	738

The total registration is much larger than ever before in the history of the School. There is an increase in all classes over last year, and in all but the second year class there is a larger enrollment than in any previous year.

The following tables show the sources from which the twelve successive classes have been drawn, both as to previous college training and as to geographical districts:—

HARVARD GRADUATES.

Class of	From Massachusetts.	New England outside of Massachusetts.	Outside of New England.	Total.
1895	32	4	13	49
1896	23	7	17	47
1897	27	2	15	44
1898	42	1	25	68
1899	45	6	19	70
1900	50	11	30	91
1901	45	3	28	76
1902	59	2	28	89
1903	43	4	28	75
1904	47	5	17	69
1905	44	4	20	68
1906	52	7	32	91

GRADUATES OF OTHER COLLEGES.

Class of	From Massachusetts.	New England outside of Massachusetts.	Outside of New England.	Total.
1895	8	14	30	52
1896	14	11	45	70
1897	9	12	56	77
1898	19	23	62	104
1899	21	12	45	78
1900	30	19	60	109
1901	27	22	59	108
1902	22	29	61	112
1903	23	26	83	132
1904	25	29	74	128
1905	23	27	78	128
1906	30	45	92	167

HOLDING NO DEGREE.

Class of	From Massachusetts.	New England outside of Massachusetts.	Outside of New England.	Total.	TOTAL OF CLASS.
1895	16	3	14	33	135
1896	10	4	9	23	140
1897	26	7	16	49	170
1898	25	2	25	52	224
1899	11	2	8	21	169
1900	11	2	3	16	216
1901	25	—	9	34	218
1902	18	4	9	31	232
1903	21	1	12	34	241
1904	22	—	10	32	229
1905	12	2	18	32	228
1906	25	1	9	35	293

As the thirty-five Harvard seniors in the first year class have in each instance completed the work required for the Harvard A. B. degree, all members of the class are virtually college graduates. The same is true of practically the entire School, since seven special students are the only members who have not received a degree. Of the sixty special students, thirty-three have entered this year, and of these twenty-six are graduates of a college or university, six having received a degree in law.

One hundred and eleven colleges and universities have representatives now in the School as compared with ninety-four last year and ninety-two the previous year. In the first year class sixty-three colleges and universities, as compared with fifty-six last year, are represented, as follows: Harvard, 97 ;

Yale, 30; Brown, 16; Bowdoin, 11; Dartmouth, 11; Princeton, 8; Williams, 7; Amherst, 6; Colby, University of Iowa, Tufts, 4; University of California, Leland Stanford, Wesleyan, 3; Bates, Cornell University, Georgetown, Iowa College, Mt. Allison, Nebraska, College City of New York, Tulane, Wisconsin, 2; Bucknell, Cambridge, Charles City, Coe, Colorado College, Cornell College, Dalhousie, De Pauw, Denison, Fargo, Franklin and Marshall, Georgia, Hamilton, Holy Cross, Illinois College, State College of Kentucky, Knox, McGill, Maine, Manhattan, Minnesota, New Brunswick, Northwestern, Notre Dame, Oberlin, Ohio University, Ohio Wesleyan, Oxford, Pennsylvania, Pacific, Rose Polytechnic, Rutgers, St. Josephs, Toronto, Trinity, U. S. Naval Academy, Western Maryland, Western Reserve, Westminster, Wheaton, 1. There are at present in the School eight law school graduates, of whom three have received also an academic degree, representing the following law schools: Detroit, Dickinson, Kansas City, Kings (Windsor), New York, New York University, Notre Dame, Ohio State University.

“THE PEONAGE CASES.”—Few recent judicial statements have aroused greater interest than the response of Judge Jones of Alabama to certain questions propounded by a grand jury relative to peonage and involuntary servitude. In his reply to these questions the learned judge covered two distinct topics. With commendable regard for the dignity of the law and the welfare of the community he first recommended the indictment of a numerous class of persons who had abused the processes of the courts and fraudulently induced ignorant laborers to subject themselves to a condition approaching slavery. Not content with this, however, the court proceeded to a somewhat gratuitous discussion of the constitutionality of an interesting and important Alabama statute. *Peonage Cases*, 123 Fed. Rep. 671 (Dist. Ct., M. D. Ala.). The Alabama legislature had enacted that in certain counties of the state any laborer who makes a written contract to serve, and then abandons his employment without the consent of his employer or a good excuse to be adjudged by the court, and then makes a similar contract with a second employer without informing him of the first agreement, is guilty of an indictable offense.¹ This statute, says the judge, is invalid under both the Alabama and the Federal constitutions, as involving, first, a denial of the equal protection of the laws; second, imprisonment for debt; and third, involuntary servitude.

The first of these three objections the court does not strongly press. Its contention is based on the fact that the operation of the statute is limited to certain counties and to a certain class of contracts. But the constitution means by securing the equal protection of the laws simply that all persons in the same class shall be treated alike under like conditions.² Whoever therefore attacks on this ground the validity of a statute must show that the classification is arbitrary and unreasonable. This was hardly attempted by the court. The irresponsibility of the negro laborers and their propensity for breaking contracts at a season when to lose their labor may mean ruin to the planters, shows that the classification was not unreasonable.

The reasoning of the judge on the question of imprisonment for debt appears to be based on a misinterpretation of the statute. The breach of

¹ Acts 1900-1901, p. 1208, § 1.

² Cooley Const. Law, 3d ed., 249. See also *Barbier v. Connolly*, 113 U. S. 27.